

Subject: Re: The Australian Chapter
From: Kari <karin.e.mcgregor@gmail.com>
Date: 8/12/2012 9:25 PM
To: gmpfilms@gmail.com
CC: Arts Fantasy <david.z@zeitgeistaustralia.org>

Hi there again,

OK, true to my word here is our ad-hoc response to the matter:

25 volunteers - most of whom are chapter or project coordinators in TZM Australia - were able to attend our meeting and provide their input for our collective response. The decision we have arrived at is as follows:

- We will immediately remove the article from the magazine published on the Zeitgeist Australia website (already complete)
- We will immediately remove the wording "Debunking the Venus Project" from the magazine's promotional banner on the Zeitgeist Australia website (already complete)

The response of the team is as follows (most people presented more than one of the following recommendations):

- 32% recommend for the article to remain in its current form on the magazine on the website, but for TZM Australia to present a clear disclaimer on the website clarifying that the magazine is not an official voice of the Movement, and that views expressed in its articles are strictly those of the articles' authors, and are not the official stance of the Movement (at present the magazine bears no explicit affiliation with TZM; it would simply be a matter of explicitly stating the aforementioned disclaimer)
- 28% recommend for the article to remain in its current form in the magazine on the website as censorship is not accepted
- 28% recommend for the article to be removed from the magazine for the sake of maintaining Australia's place in the global TZM network after the threat of dissociation
- 12% recommend temporarily removing the article from the magazine on the Zeitgeist Australia website and then re-uploading it at a later date with the disclaimer that it does not represent the views of the Movement
- 12% recommend for the article to be removed from the magazine in order to maintain positive relations with TVP
- 8% recommend for the article to remain in its current form in the magazine on the website, and for us to publish TVP's response to it in the next issue of the magazine - as TVP have explicitly requested
- 8% recommend a re-write of the article to reflect an unbiased viewpoint and the amendments outlined by TVP's response

All present voiced concerns about the pressure posed by such an ultimatum as well as a desire to have the opportunity for careful consideration. All present voiced their disappointment regarding what is perceived as an approach of applying collective punishment.

Many of those present also voiced concerns regarding the heavy-handed approach of Peter Joseph in this

particular case, stating a perceived contradiction between his expressed desire to not be a leader for the Movement, yet behaving unilaterally in times of perceived crisis when carefully considered discussion (of the sort that we had in our meeting) would have led to optimal outcomes for all concerned.

Several of those present pointed out that removing the article at this stage may lead to it being remembered as "the article that got censored", with the consequences that may bear being unknown at this stage.

Thank you for taking the points mentioned on board. We will get back to you in the next few days with our full response to this matter.

From me personally: I hope that this situation hasn't put you under too much undue stress. I know how hard that is from first-hand experience, and we need to support one another in difficult times. You are already aware that there were no negative intentions behind the article, just a pursuit of truth in a world of myth (hence it appeared in the myth-busting issue). Please forward responses to the article to the following email address (this is the email address listed in *Spirit of the Times* as the appropriate channel for responses to articles): magazine@thespiritofcommunity.org. I will deal with them as the buck stops with me, not you. Please don't take on the responsibility for this as it is misplaced on your shoulders.

Thank you and take care,

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Kari McGregor

Editor, *Spirit of the Times* magazine

www.thespiritofcommunity.org